

NATIVE VEGETATION AND BIODIVERSITY OFFSETS

Capability Statement



ecology & heritage
partners



Ecology and Heritage Partners assist permit holders and private landholders to successfully meet all aspects of their native vegetation and biodiversity offset obligations in the shortest possible timeframe and with the best possible outcomes. Our experienced team facilitate smooth navigation through Commonwealth and state environmental offset legislation and policy. We manage all stages of the offset process from initial due diligence assessments of potential offset sites, to high-level negotiations with relevant government agencies, to post-approval monitoring, auditing and site management.

About offsets

The market for offset credits is derived from the permitted clearance of native vegetation and fauna habitat in accordance with Commonwealth and state legislation and regulations. Offsets credits are created via an on title

agreement that legally formalises the protection and enhancement of native vegetation and fauna habitat in perpetuity.

Commonwealth offsets

Commonwealth environmental offsets may be required to compensate for the removal or disturbance of habitat for threatened flora and fauna species, and ecological communities listed under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Ecology and Heritage Partners assist in locating suitable offset sites that support the relevant threatened species and communities, negotiating with the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, and preparing Offset Management Plans to meet Commonwealth requirements.

Victorian offsets

We have an excellent working understanding of the offset obligations required by proponents as well as what is available in the marketplace. Under the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (the Guidelines), native vegetation, offsets are measured in Habitat Units (HUs) and are divided into two categories:

- › **General offsets** - based on the contribution a site makes to biodiversity in Victoria
- › **Species offsets** - considers the contribution a site makes to the persistence of significant flora or fauna species.

Generating offset credits

Our specialist consultants assist landowners to generate native vegetation credits, with the preparation of the necessary on-title agreements, and with ongoing land management obligations. Credits may be used to satisfy the landowner's own offset requirements (first party offset), or sold via the Native Vegetation Credit Register (NVCR) to other parties requiring offsets (third party offset).

Practical outcomes. Trusted expertise.

Capabilities

- › Calculation of offsets under:
 - the Guidelines (Victoria)
 - EPBC Act offsets (Commonwealth)
- › EPBC Act referrals, on-title agreements, land management plans and associated documentation
- › Flora, fauna and ecological community surveys
- › Identification and quantification of ecological assessment requirements
- › Monitoring, auditing and management of offset sites
- › Project planning advice to minimise offset obligations
- › Registration and trade of native vegetation credits on Victoria's NVCR
- › Sourcing, negotiation and securing sites to meet Commonwealth and state requirements
- › Vegetation mapping of development and offset sites

If you have a project:

Some species offsets are in short supply and may be difficult to source. As such, we always recommend proponents obtain expert advice early on in a project's planning stage to minimise the impact on threatened flora and fauna, and significant ecological communities. Early planning also allows more time to secure difficult-to-source offsets and will minimise delays and unnecessary costs for your project.

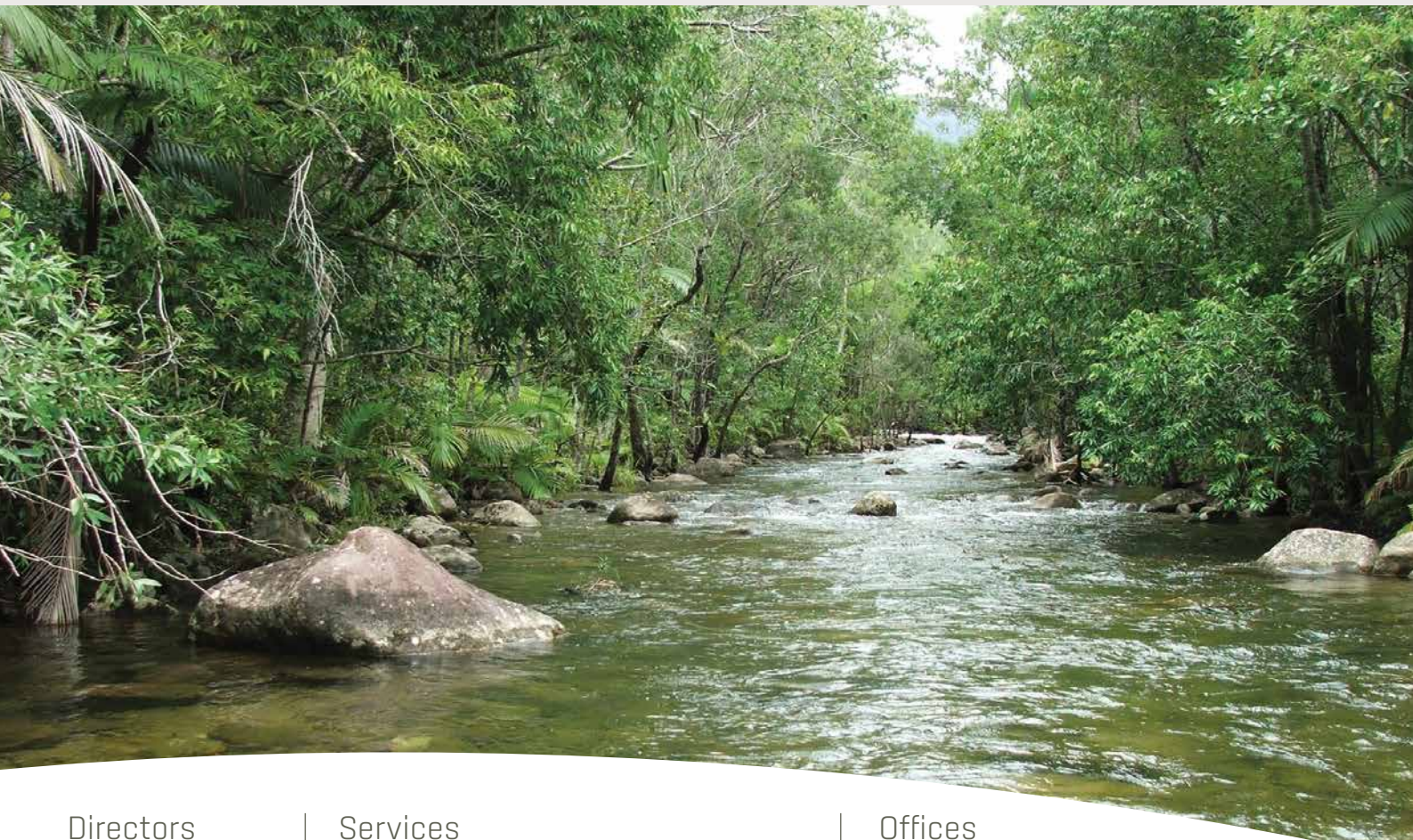
If you are a landowner:

We can assist you to determine the potential value of native vegetation offsets within your property, assist you to register offset credits for sale, and provide services and support to manage the site.

Enquiries

Our offsets team has an excellent knowledge of credits available and current demand in the marketplace. Please contact us on 1300 839 325 for a quote or if you have any questions regarding your project, offsets and how the process works.

Talk to us today about how to achieve the best possible outcomes for your project.



Directors



Aaron Organ



Oona Nicolson



Andrew Hill

Services

- › Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
- › Archaeology
- › Aquatic Ecology
- › Biodiversity Offsets
- › Bushfire Risk Assessment and Management
- › Environmental Auditing, Monitoring and Compliance
- › Geospatial Solutions
- › Historical and Built Heritage
- › Land Management and Restoration
- › Maritime Heritage
- › Terrestrial Ecology

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